UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/AC.51/1995/L.3/Add.20
7 June 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION
Thirty-fifth session
15 May-9 June 1995
Agenda item 8

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Hisham ELZIMAITY (Egypt)

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

Section 17. Economic Commission for Europe

1. At its 19th meeting, on 30 May 1995, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 17, Economic Commission for Europe, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997.

Discussion

2. A number of delegations emphasized the importance of the activities proposed under section 17 and supported the programme of work and the level of resources.

3. Some delegations stressed the importance of coordinating activities with other United Nations entities, and in particular with regional organizations, in order to avoid duplication of work.

4. Some delegations felt that there was a need for further streamlining of resources in non-priority areas and their redeployment to designated high priority areas. They also considered that the activities of some ECE bodies should be reviewed. Other delegations stressed the need to ensure adequate

95-16956 (E) 080695 090695

/...

resources for all mandated activities of ECE, in particular for the development of cooperation in the field of industry and technology.

5. In this connection, other delegations regretted that the Secretary-General had proposed an activity at Vienna to support the reconstruction and development of the Central and Eastern European countries, without any legislative mandate. They emphasized that these functions could be developed under the activities of ECE. Some delegations regretted that the Secretariat had not given precise and sufficient information to Member States in order to enable them to identify the gains related to effectiveness and productivity that would arise from the transferring of these functions from Geneva to Vienna. Many delegations expressed support for the proposal under section 9, Department for Development Support and Management Services, to establish a Unit at Vienna to coordinate the activities related to the countries with economies in transition.

6. Many delegations emphasized the importance of further orientation and development of the activities of ECE for the purposes of the economic and social transformation in the countries with economies in transition.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 17, Economic Commission for Europe, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997.